## Activities for Developing Reading Comprehension

### Before, During and After Reading

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Application</th>
<th>Variations</th>
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</table>
| **Tic Tac Toe Three in a Row** | **Before or after** | - Model on noughts and crosses  
- Can use words  
- Can use pictures  
- Can use words and pictures  
- Try to add at least one word or picture in the puzzle that the students find difficult—it is a challenge  
- Can leave on the board for students to puzzle over all week!  
- Older students can make their own |
| **Dot-to-Dot**                 | **Before or After** | - Can use words  
- Can use pictures/words  
- Can use only pictures  
- Add at least one or two words the students will find difficult—chance to add new vocab. |
| **World Wide Web**            | **Before or During** | - Photocopy template onto A5 (to save paper)  
- Teach students how to do “Ant Writing” to save paper.  
- Can be used as a brainstorm to get prior knowledge.  
- Can be used to get key words or vocab  
- Juniors can circle words or draw pictures.  
- Photo can be placed in the centre. |
| **Secret Seven**              | **Before**     | - Choose seven words that connect to the text.  
- Some may be new vocab.  
- Juniors may use pictures from internet, magazines, photocopy from books etc.  
- Put words on whiteboard or projector or in pictures into envelopes and hide around the room.  
- This leads them into the Jigsaw game….to guess what the text is going to be about.  
- Some vocab may be recorded on WOW WORDS chart. |

### References

- "Teaching Reading Strategies" S Cameron
- "Teaching Reading Comprehension" A Davis
- "Targeting Text" Blake Education
- "Comprehending Texts" Stephen Graham
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<th>Activity</th>
<th>Before</th>
<th>After</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Letter Jigsaw</strong></td>
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<td>From the seven clues make a jigsaw with the letters to find out the main idea of the text e.g. desert animals were in the secret seven- word will be desert or seven scavenger animals- word will be scavenger.</td>
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<td><strong>Speech Bubbles</strong></td>
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<td>Make some blank speech bubbles. Use to get students to think of what characters in text may say and record in whiteboard pen. Great for shared books</td>
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<td><strong>Let's Connect</strong></td>
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<td>Could be class or group activity Make or record on the board Give each student a key word from the text-some adjectives, nouns, verbs. Make Headings for groupings.. These can be grouped for • What, where, who, when etc • In parts of speech • Character descriptions etc.</td>
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<td><strong>Let's Link</strong></td>
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<td>Make four oblong boxes in a line and get students to draw or write a sequence e.g. great for life cycles-food chains etc.</td>
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<td><strong>Head to Head-Toe to Toe</strong></td>
<td>After</td>
<td></td>
<td>Excellent for quick feedback-in pairs-small groups. Discuss questions-guess tic tac toe- guess Secret Seven etc</td>
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<td><strong>Spot the Dot</strong></td>
<td>Before or After</td>
<td></td>
<td>Make large dots and laminate. Can write clues on one side and put words or pictures on the flip side for students guess-to turn over to affirm.</td>
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<td><strong>Hot Seat</strong></td>
<td>After</td>
<td></td>
<td>Student sits in seat to hot it up while text is introduced and read. Choose a student to go into character-others ask questions-questions can be channelled to reflect learning intention e.g. place character lives, what character is like, vocab etc.</td>
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<td><strong>Stand and Share</strong></td>
<td>Before During After</td>
<td></td>
<td>All students stand and take turns to contribute whatever the teaching point is then sit down.</td>
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